

Private *and important for the aborigines* *H.W.* *Shinley Island*

Dear Sir *3rd December 1845*

I have withheld writing to you for a length of time as I found it impossible to render my dear black friends any service by so doing, I could ^{therefore} not think of occupying your very precious moments when I was fully aware that they could be much better occupied than by poring over the common place observations which could only flow from my pen. I merely now state to you that I have four sheets well filled by me for you, when a prudent moment will admit of my concluding the subjects they are intended to communicate.

B My principle and only object in writing at the present moment is relative to the present & future prospects of the dear Aborigines. I must therefore first inform you that they are making rapid advances out of their primordial ignorance

George W. Walker Esq
H. L.

ignorance, and ~~advancing~~ ^{improving} in Religious Knowledge
and Civilization so far as existing circumstances
will admit of, nor can there be any fault charged
against them generally when all matters are considered
for any lack of Industry.

I have 6 Schools upon this Establishment, 3 Day &
Night Schools, and three Sabbath Schools 4 of these
are for the Aborigines, as the ~~ages~~ ^{adults} are separated from
the younger, all of them promise to be effective & I
shall only adduce as an instance of their beneficial
tendency, that there are 13 adult Males and 5 adult
Females in the Reading ^{Bible} Class - several of them
committing the Scriptures to Memory - there are
3 Males ~~and~~ ^{and} learning to Cypher and 14 Males
attempting to write Male Hindi and to make
& learn the names of the Minerals - above all
I hope the Divine Spirit has begun his work in
the hearts of 3 or 4 of them, the Sabbath School
for the white & native Children is also prospering.
These things fill my heart with thankfulness to
that Divine Being who alone can bless & pros-
per his Creature Man in his ant going & incoming

then this £88 is to be provided for - and out of
 this amount the oil, Tobacco & several other small
 items may be subtracted the oil supplied by the
 produce of the Mutton birds, the Tobacco grown upon the
 Settlement - there will then remain £600 - which
 can be easily procured - in 5000 ^{lbs} of Wool @ 9p
 2 Tons of Suet @ 3^d p - £192-10
 Skins for - 66-0
 Butter of Superior quality 1 Ton @ 9p lb - 20-0
 Pork which I estimate at 2 Tons 84-0
 20 pigs of 2 cwt each } - 112
 Potatoes 5 acres - Wheat 10 acres & Barley
 5 acres - which may be calculated 150
 to produce about £614

To this amount there might be added - many other
 things such as Bark - Gum - Mutton Birds - &c &c
 which I have no doubt would produce a few
 more hundreds - and which surplus the Govern-
 ment might apply as it thought proper.

For myself I throw my exertions into the scale
 with my poor people, the Lord has mercifully
 cast my lot here as fatehust of Glenagey Island
 and as such I hope to remain, I have

But I would desire without any fee or reward to
be placed over the working of the people all the
produce of the land to pass thro' my hands
to the Superintendent and for which I should
receive vouchers from him - and that the
control of the Aborigines should be in my
hands alone - the punishing of them if necessary
in the hands of the Superintendent the Head of
the Establishment -

The land is fertile - manure abundant and
and the natives when placed upon a footing with
whitemen will work well particularly when they
know it to be for themselves and there is no fear
of them so to be cured of land being put into
Cultivation of his Excellency the Lieut Govt
only gives the sword - The result would be seen
in a temporal point of view to the Charac-
ter of the D-Land - but in a Moral &
Spiritual point of view, what incalculable

blessings it will come to the poor African
now half a Slave to the Whims and Fancies
of the Whiteman he has dared to read the
word of Life - fully its importance & rescue
out of Nature's ~~darkness~~ ^{misery} perceiving that all
before was darkness and death - Cast him
into the hands of a more contractor or Scath
has been here among the police Station &
settlers of N. D. Land, they will soon make
to him all manner of the government can
not calculate on the mischief which would
result, there is no person can tell them but
myself - for every matter is concealed - Post
Phillip along should raise a warning voice
and the Principals in that awful affair are
here - I write this in great haste & only
for yourself make use of the information
it ~~contains~~ ^{affords} of opportunity affords for the
benefit of my poor people but my name

You will require to keep back unless that
you may see it absolutely necessary - I do
not wish to interfere between the Govt &
Doctor Mellick as he is desirous to be-
come a Contractor, and till the Govt
finally refuses to make sale of the
Almonding I think it best to keep
my name out of sight - then I do not
year to know that Hudson's Island
can be made thro the Divine blessing
a Self Supporting Establishment -
with the above emigration -

Excuse me as I am now
very much pressed & Dr. M. is leaving
I remain Dear Sir

Yours faithfully

Geo. L. L.

Robt Clark

(The doctor did not leave that
night -)

as I find I have yet a few minutes to
devote to this subject. I again address
you. The witness is but a rough & Calcula-
tion for this reason as I have not the books
of the Settlement I could not go nearer
than the probable amounts which I believe
are near the Truth.

The quantity of Land which may be brought
into Cultivation in the immediate neigh-
bourhood of the Settlement and surround-
ing it, is only to be bounded by the quantity
possessed for its tillage, and the number
of Ploughs and working hands -
and in the early days of the Settlement
I have seen as fine Wheat in quantity
grown ^{upon} at Huddersley as in A. D. Land
and as good Potatoes as Brandy River
can produce. There is an article

of which we could raise to the amount of
many Tons, viz Onions and another kind
Carrots - both suitable for Export -
There are two good Ploughmen among the
Natives who can work as well as any white
man and the Settlement can muster 4
Teams of Bulls - so that the Plough
would never stand still - we would only
require a little fostering assistance and
Support for the first year and we hope
then to get on - if the Trial would be
but made - The Government now removing
the Settlement must incur a heavy expense
as also a loss by the sale of Stock &c
which can be avoided by trying how the
people would endeavor to support them
selves & surely they are entitled to such
a Trial at the ~~lowest~~ ^{lowest} feelings that are
about them - the Govt cannot lose

by it at the least - and Mr E. E. could not
but earn a mass of Reim from the mass
of humanity if it succeeds - and £900
a year if not the entire £1500 or £1800
will be saved the Government - The duty
under Providence is not problematical
under the ordinary & every day occurrence
of life - but a steady sober Superintendent
of his wife will be required, who
would not be above his business and give
put his heart into the work -

The accounts can be so simplified
that no malpractice or attempt to
defraud could be practised, and the
process of every article paid into the
Government Treasury as it was disposed
of at Market either in Hobart or at
Launceston - If you had an abolition
Society in Hobart town many
of the evils which has fallen upon

Woodlark

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George W. Nathan Esq
San Francisco
Barbours Town

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But my present communication is to endeavor to
arouse your sympathies on behalf of my poor people
~~and to endeavor~~ to avert an impending storm.

Dr. McMillan has informed me that there has been
several Estimates ~~has~~ laid before the Government to take
the care and support of the Aborigines at an Annual
Rent and remove them from Hudson's Bay. The
Doct^r is now going up for this purpose to make an offer
to feed and clothe them, and occupy all the adjacent lands.
It is not for me to interfere with what even the Govern-
ment may choose to do with my poor dear people. I
only now say that if the Hon^{ble} Excellency will only give
it a trial, there is an opportunity for him doing
the Aborigines the only piece of good service that has
been performed for them since the departure of Sir
George Arthur that is to make Hudson's Bay
"a Self Supporting Establishment."

The Government to pay the Superintendent of
the Consignment - ^{and supply them with Nations} myself and a Medical attend^t
and 10 white men and all the Natives to be
supported, clothed, and educated. I instructed
from the produce of the Soil of the Rock
already existing upon the Settlement.